

## DEALING WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS IN CHILDREN POLICY

Children are supported to feel physically and emotionally well, and feel safe in the knowledge that their wellbeing and individual health care needs will be met when they have a medical condition or are unwell.

The school at times may have children enrolled who suffer anaphylactic shock from certain foods, substances or insects and those who may have a specific food intolerance.

The school recognises that anaphylaxis is potentially life threatening and that food intolerances can result in reactions causing discomfort.

### Anaphylactic Shock

A rare, severe, widespread allergic reaction, anaphylactic shock causes constriction of the airways and a sudden drop in blood pressure. Without immediate medical attention, it can be fatal. Stings from insects, reactions to certain medicines, some foods (such as eggs, nuts, shellfish and cow's milk) may trigger a reaction.

### Food Intolerance

A child who suffers from food intolerance develops symptoms in response to a particular food or to one of its constituents. Food intolerance differs from food allergy (see anaphylactic shock) and may result in vomiting or diarrhea. Some common types of food which if eaten can result in an intolerance are cow's milk, lactose and sucrose, eggs, nuts and fish.

### Parent Responsibility

1. To inform staff of any food allergies and food intolerances
2. To establish a Medical Conditions Risk Minimization Plan with the school.
3. To provide necessary medication.
4. To check medication regularly for use by dates and replace medication accordingly.
5. To provide appropriate foods to be used by the child in celebrations.
6. To sign a statement that staff can display children's names on wall in kitchen.
7. To provide Doctor's name, address, phone number and approved First Aid plan.

### School Responsibility

1. Administrator to communicate with families at enrolment if a medical management plan from a registered medical practitioner and a risk minimization plan will be required.
2. To have an Epi Pen available at all times and to regularly check its use by date.
3. To have someone with first aid qualifications on site at all times.
4. To educate all staff in the cause and effect of an anaphylactic reaction and to recognise the typical signs
5. To educate all staff in the use of an EpiPen and the emergency procedure. This procedure is to be practiced at least once a term.
6. To ensure all staff are informed of any children diagnosed with a medical condition or specific health care need and the risk minimization procedures in place when a new child enrolls.

7. To list clearly on sheet on kitchen wall all children who have allergies and/or specific dietary restrictions, and to inform all staff where their medication is stored.
8. To notify parents of the school of the risks associated with certain foods.
9. To discourage peanut butter and whole nuts of any kind and encourage pro-active practices in avoiding the use of these foods in lunches, snacks, birthday cakes, etc which may be brought to the school.
10. To ensure a Medical Conditions Risk Minimization Plan has been established and signed. both the parent and the school representative.
11. To ensure Administering Medication Policy is achieved when giving medication as treatment.
12. To notify parents immediately if treatment has been given.
13. To record when treatment has been given.
14. To encourage all staff to attend approved anaphylaxis management training biannually.
15. This policy is to be reviewed annually by the Principal.